

Date: Fri, 20 May 94 10:36:05 PDT  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #549  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Fri, 20 May 94                      Volume 94 : Issue    549

Today's Topics:

610 Form in PostScript(r)  
Help wanted: New Jersey info  
HTX-202 question  
Internet CW vs. FSK (2 msgs)  
IPS Daily Report - 19 May 94  
MICHIGAN QSO PARTY May 21,22  
Mobile Server  
ORBS\$140.2liners  
Repost of IC-3220a problem  
SOURCE for 8122 power amplifier tubes?

Why is Northern Ontario Canada left out of the ARRL repeater directory.

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: Thu, 19 May 1994 00:44:02 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!usc!nic-  
nac.CSU.net!charnel.ecst.csuchico.edu!olivea!news.bu.edu!att-in!nntp!not-for-  
mail@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: 610 Form in PostScript(r)  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The FTP server at Buffalo has a postscript\_610 file that contains  
code for printing out a Form 610 on a PostScript(r) printer. Has  
anyone successfully used this for submission to the FCC? Seems like  
it would be an easy way to have lots of 610s on hand -- if the FCC  
accepts it.

73,  
Bob K2PH

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Bob Schreibmaier K2PH | UUCP: ...!att!mtdcr!bob  
AT&T Bell Laboratories | Internet: bob@mtdcr.att.com  
Middletown, N.J. 07748 | ICBM: 40o21'N, 74o8'W  
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Date: 20 May 1994 11:43:36 +1000  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!munnnari.oz.au!newshost.anu.edu.au!newshost.defcen.GOV.AU!not-  
for-email@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Help wanted: New Jersey info  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hi. I'll be in the Princeton, NJ region for a couple of months soon. I've applied for a reciprocal permit, but need to find out a couple of things before I get there. First, what is the call area for Princeton (my guess is N2 or W2 but I'm unclear of the significance of the letter!)? Secondly, could some kind soul tell me what 2m frequencies I should try, and whether I need to sort out how to use the tone access options on my HT:-) I'd like to use the opportunity of chatting to some locals! (Most of all I'd like to try to find an HF rig to keep a sched in Australia with, but I realise that could be very difficult)

AtDhVaAnNkCsE

73's  
Leisa

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Leisa Condie (VK1LC) leisa@defcen.gov.au  
CMR / DSTO (Australia)  
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Date: 19 May 1994 20:36:43 GMT  
From: news2.near.net!info-server.bbn.com!news!levin@yale.arpa  
Subject: HTX-202 question  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1994May19.122030.10042@colmiks.com> psc@colmiks.com (Philip Cook (Halgren)) writes:

When you set the PL tone, do it while you are not in the memory channels.  
You must set it first before you save it as a channel memory. And make sure

you have it turned on while you do save it. I have done it myself and have had no problems with it at all. Here is the way to do it:

You can do it after you've set it in the channel memory. Assuming you've got the memory all set up (including split), here's how to add PL tone:

1. Select the channel.
2. Access the menu. Now you only have 3 options to worry about: transmit frequency and the TX and RX PL tones.
3. Select the PL tones you want for TX and/or RX.
4. Exit the menu by pressing PTT.
5. Turn on tone encoding/decoding (Func-1 I think).
6. Enter new settings into memory (Func-C, hold for one second).

This way you don't affect the VFO settings or the defaults for the radio that are kept in the main menu.

/JBL

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Nets: levin@bbn.com		"There were sweetheart roses on Yancey Wilmerding's
POTS: (617)873-3463		bureau that morning. Wide-eyed and distraught, she
ARS: KD1ON		stood with all her faculties rooted to the floor."
		-- S. J. Perelman

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Date: 19 May 1994 00:39:30 GMT  
From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!usc!  
elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!lll-winken.llnl.gov!korie!news2me.EBay.Sun.COM!  
engnews2.Eng.Sun.COM!engnews2!@ihnp4.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Internet CW vs. FSK  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <Cq09oK.D5p@wang.com> dbushong@wang.com (Dave Bushong) writes:

>Since the net has so much bandwidth, I think they should use FSK,  
>like this:  
>  
>\_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
>  
>Where a dit is "\_" and dah is "-" and it's easier to type; you merely  
>toggle the shift key to go between a dit and dah.

Can't be FSK, I still see breaks in the carrier. More like SKSK, "Shift Key Shift Keying." To make this more like FSK we should send continuous carrier, i.e. "mark" between characters. Of course we have to add a start bit for synchronization. Since Morse isn't a constant length code, what would

we do at the end of the characters? Do we need to do bit stuffing?

Rich

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Rich McAllister (rfm@eng.sun.com)

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Date: Thu, 19 May 1994 04:51:08 GMT  
From: agate!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!csus.edu!netcom.com!np2x@ames.arpa  
Subject: Internet CW vs. FSK  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Good God! Can you imagine the code/no-code implications this would have? Maybe the Internet Corporation of America (TM) could establish code and no-code access. The higher your USENET code reading speed is, the more access to those more "desireable" newsgroups you could get. (It could also include testing in basic Internet rules and regulations and the higher classes would get more technical such as routers, etc.)

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= = = = =  
"Johnathan Livingston M-U-R-D-E-R", T. Croooooow!, Tormented  
= = = = =  
np2x@netcom.com / np2x.np2x.ampr.org / np2x@486.np2x.ampr.org

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Date: Thu, 19 May 1994 23:24:47 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!munnari.oz.au!newshost.anu.edu.au!sserve!usage!metro!ipso!  
rwc@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: IPS Daily Report - 19 May 94  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

SUBJ: IPS DAILY SOLAR AND GEOPHYSICAL REPORT  
ISSUED AT 19/2330Z MAY 1994 BY IPS RADIO AND SPACE SERVICES  
FROM THE REGIONAL WARNING CENTRE (RWC), SYDNEY.  
SUMMARY FOR 19 MAY AND FORECAST UP TO 22 MAY

No warning is current.

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1A. SOLAR SUMMARY  
Activity: very low

Flares: none.

Observed 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 091/036

1B. SOLAR FORECAST

	20 May	21 May	22 May
Activity	Very low	Very low	Very low
Fadeouts	None expected	None expected	None expected

Forecast 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 090/034

1C. SOLAR COMMENT

None.

2A. MAGNETIC SUMMARY

Geomagnetic field at Learmonth: quiet to unsettled

Estimated Indices : A	K	Observed A Index 18 May
Learmonth	09 2233 3211	
Fredericksburg	16	20
Planetary	15	18

Observed Kp for 18 May: 4443 3324

2B. MAGNETIC FORECAST

DATE	Ap	CONDITIONS
20 May	12	Quiet.
21 May	12	Quiet.
22 May	12	Quiet.

2C. MAGNETIC COMMENT

None.

3A. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION SUMMARY

	LATITUDE BAND		
DATE	LOW	MIDDLE	HIGH
19 May	normal	normal	normal

PCA Event : None.

3B. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION FORECAST

	LATITUDE BAND		
DATE	LOW	MIDDLE	HIGH
20 May	normal	normal	normal
21 May	normal	normal	normal
22 May	normal	normal	normal

3C. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION COMMENT

NONE.

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4A. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC SUMMARY

MUFs at Sydney were near predicted monthly values with 20-30% enhancements 08-10UT. Spread F was observed 15-20UT and may have degraded night communications.

Observed T index for 19 May: 48

Predicted Monthly T Index for May is 30.

4B. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC FORECAST

DATE	T-index	MUFs
20 May	40	Near predicted monthly values.
21 May	40	Near predicted monthly values.
22 May	40	Near predicted monthly values.

4C. AUSTRALIAN REGION COMMENT

Possible degraded night communications due to spread F.

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IPS Regional Warning Centre, Sydney	IPS Radio and Space Services
email: rwc@ips.oz.au fax: +61 2 4148331	PO Box 5606
RWC Duty Forecaster tel: +61 2 4148329	West Chatswood NSW 2057
Recorded Message tel: +61 2 4148330	AUSTRALIA

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Date: 20 May 94 16:01:03 GMT

From: sdd.hp.com!cs.utexas.edu!not-for-mail@hplabs.hpl.hp.com

Subject: MICHIGAN QSO PARTY May 21,22

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

This letter was distributed at my amateur radio club last night.

Not responsible for any errors, typos, or remissions.

I am not affiliated with the Oak Park Amateur Radio Club.

Jeff Johnson, KF8UW, Blossomland Amateur Radio Club, Berrien County, Michigan

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MICHIGAN QSO PARTY

TWO PERIODS GMT

1800Z Sat. May 21 to 0300Z Sunday May 22  
1100Z Sun. May 22 to 0200Z Monday May 23

The 1994 Michigan QSO Party will be sponsored by the Oak Park Amateur Radio Club. Phone and CW are combined into one contest. Michigan stations can work Michigan counties for multipliers. A station may be contacted once on each band/mode. Portable/mobiles may be counted as new contacts each time the county changes.

EXCHANGE: RS(T), QSO#, QTH, County for Michigan; State or Country for others.

SCORING: Multipliers are counted only once. \_Michigan Stations\_: 1 point per QSO x (States + Countries + Michigan counties) on phone. Each CW contact is 2 points per QSO. Alaska and Hawaii count as states. VE counts as a country. Maximum multiplier is 85. Five (5) points for each W8MB contact. \_Non-Michigan-Stations\_: QSO points X Michigan counties. 1 point for each Michigan phone QSO and 2 points for each CW contact. Five points for each club station contact with W8MB/W8MB/mobile. Maximum multiplier is 83. VHF only entries: Same as above except multipliers per VHF band are added together for total multipliers. No repeater contacts are allowed.

SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES: CW - 1810, 3540, 3725, 7035, 7125, 14035,  
21035, 21125, 28035, 28125.

PHONE - 1855, 3905, 7280, 14280, 21380, 28580.  
VHF - 50.125, 145.025, 146.52

AWARDS: \_MICHIGAN\_: Plaques - High Multi-operator/single transmitter score, High Michigan Score, High Michigan (Upper Peninsula) score, High aggregate club score and High QRP only entry (Minimum of 1000 QSO's), and High Michigan Mobile score. \_Certificate\_: High score for each country (Min.50 QSO's). \_OUT-STATE\_: High Out-State plaque and certificates for High Score each state and country.

A log and summary sheet is requested showing the scoring and other pertinent information, name and address in BLOCK LETTERS, and a signed declaration that all the rules and regulations have been observed. Michigan stations include club name for combined club score. Party contacts do not count toward the Michigan Achievement Award unless one fact about Michigan is communicated. Members of the Michigan QSO Party Committee are not eligible for individual awards. Decisions of the Contest Committee are final. Results will be final on July 30, 1994 and will be mailed to all entries that have sent in a SASE. Mailing deadline is July 1, 1994. Send logs to:

Mark Shaw - K8ED  
27600 Franklin Road

Apartment 516  
Southfield, MI 48034

ARRL affiliated \* OAK PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB \* 14300 OAK PARK BLVD \* OAK PARK  
MICHIGAN 48237

-----CUT HERE-----

THE MICHIGAN QSO PARTY  
1994

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS:

SINGLE OPERATOR \_\_\_\_\_ MULTI OPERATOR \_\_\_\_\_ QRP (Less than 5W.) \_\_\_\_\_

CW QSO's \_\_\_\_\_ X 1 point \_\_\_\_\_

Phone QSO's \_\_\_\_\_ X 2 points \_\_\_\_\_

W8MB QSO's \_\_\_\_\_ X 5 points \_\_\_\_\_

Total QSO POINTS \_\_\_\_\_

State/ County / Country multipliers X \_\_\_\_\_  
(Maximum of 85)

Final Score = \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

I have operated the Michigan QSO party in accordance with the rules of the  
contest and the rules and regulations of the country in which I am licensed.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

MICHIGAN County List



-- CUT HERE----

Call: \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

[illegible]



## Global Mobile Server

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Server commands are specified in the Subject line of regular mail messages addressed to server@pro-janin.cts.com (where amateur mobile operators request information). The request commands are:

HELP	Send server help file
INDEX [dir]	Send server index for the given [dir] hierarchy
SEND [dir/]file	Send file (or one in the named subdirectory)
DIR [dir]	Send server directory for the given [dir] hierarchy

(Items in [brackets] are optional; do not enter the brackets).

### Examples:

Subject: help	[ Sends the help file]
Subject: index	[ Sends the server's index(es) ]
Subject: dir amateur	[ Sends directory listings ]
Subject: send nodes	[ Sends a file ]

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Date: 20 May 94 13:36:10 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: ORBS\$140.2liners  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

SB KEPS @ AMSAT \$ORBS-140.N  
2Line Orbital Elements 140.AMSAT

HR AMSAT ORBITAL ELEMENTS FOR AMATEUR SATELLITES IN NASA FORMAT  
FROM N3FKV HEWITT, TX May 20, 1994  
BID: \$ORBS-140.N

### DECODE 2-LINE ELSETS WITH THE FOLLOWING KEY:

1 AAAAAU 00 0 0 BBBB.BBBBBBBB .CCCCCCCC 00000-0 00000-0 0 DDDZ  
2 AAAAA EEE.EEEE FFF.FFFF GGGGGGG HHH.HHHH III.IIII JJ.JJJJJJJKKKKKZ  
KEY: A-CATALOGNUM B-EPOCHTIME C-DECAY D-ELSETNUM E-INCLINATION F-RAAN  
G-ECCENTRICITY H-ARGPERIGEE I-MNANOM J-MNMOTION K-ORBITNUM Z-CHECKSUM

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

A0-10

1 14129U 83058B 94135.65640866 -.00000151 00000-0 10000-3 0 2786  
2 14129 27.1386 327.4455 6021198 178.4592 184.9623 2.05881022 82112

U0-11

1	14781U	84021B	94134.04076705	.000000201	000000-0	41983-4	0	6883
2	14781	97.7881	150.3647	0012686	24.2878	335.8924	14.69205908545296	
RS-10/11								
1	18129U	87054A	94134.60454005	.000000043	000000-0	30226-4	0	8971
2	18129	82.9259	353.6714	0012816	112.1233	248.1285	13.72336655345304	
AO-13								
1	19216U	88 51 B	94136.30336564	-.000000145	000000-0	99999-5	0	8051
2	19216	57.8496	252.4327	7207599	341.6930	2.0395	2.09724363	45341
FO-20								
1	20480U	90013C	94133.90960643	-.000000042	000000-0	-27161-4	0	6833
2	20480	99.0321	292.2171	0541449	57.0939	308.1058	12.83225410199736	
AO-21								
1	21087U	91006A	94136.51415561	.000000094	000000-0	82657-4	0	4647
2	21087	82.9441	166.1517	0035247	169.4328	190.7577	13.74539324165233	
RS-12/13								
1	21089U	91007A	94133.21181356	.000000023	000000-0	89011-5	0	6866
2	21089	82.9238	37.3882	0028156	203.8370	156.1477	13.74040087163847	
ARSENE								
1	22654U	93 31 B	94124.94294242	-.000000051	000000-0	00000 0 0		2170
2	22654	1.7729	101.4452	2921942	180.0752	180.1868	1.42202360	581
UO-14								
1	20437U	90005B	94134.77578158	.000000049	000000-0	36012-4	0	9886
2	20437	98.5905	220.0041	0010362	293.1621	66.8470	14.29842002224819	
AO-16								
1	20439U	90005D	94132.73338135	.000000023	000000-0	25875-4	0	7875
2	20439	98.5990	219.1851	0010892	301.2386	58.7720	14.29895379224532	
DO-17								
1	20440U	90005E	94136.25955384	.000000042	000000-0	33414-4	0	7878
2	20440	98.5998	222.9797	0010729	288.2946	71.7069	14.30035495225054	
WO-18								
1	20441U	90005F	94134.76495185	.000000026	000000-0	27107-4	0	7897
2	20441	98.5998	221.5067	0011130	292.6568	67.3433	14.30009656224848	
LO-19								
1	20442U	90005G	94134.18564869	.000000034	000000-0	30214-4	0	7869
2	20442	98.5992	221.1823	0011669	294.7102	65.2867	14.30105216224772	
UO-22								
1	21575U	91050B	94134.22431410	.000000058	000000-0	34175-4	0	4906
2	21575	98.4367	209.4047	0008606	36.3601	323.8167	14.36913183148208	
KO-23								
1	22077U	92052B	94134.65134563	-.000000037	000000-0	10000-3	0	3854
2	22077	66.0866	350.2005	0013609	297.5548	62.4086	12.86285709	82471
AO-27								
1	22825U	93061C	94134.73495974	.000000033	000000-0	31405-4	0	2847
2	22825	98.6556	210.8764	0008618	313.7678	46.2786	14.27622306	32917
IO-26								
1	22826U	93061D	94134.22782802	.000000105	000000-0	60241-4	0	2841
2	22826	98.6556	210.4081	0008900	317.7860	42.2636	14.27726245	32846
KO-25								

1	22830U	93061H	94134.17599451	.000000078	00000-0	48923-4	0	2893
2	22830	98.5539	207.9656	0010519	278.3913	81.6093	14.28052000	32846
NOAA-9								
1	15427U	84123A	94135.11734660	.000000108	00000-0	81386-4	0	8108
2	15427	99.0565	185.2161	0014517	316.3805	43.6219	14.13614434485679	
NOAA-10								
1	16969U	86073A	94132.97675335	.000000032	00000-0	31840-4	0	7082
2	16969	98.5095	143.0541	0014380	72.1046	288.1700	14.24883234397591	
NOAA-11								
1	19531U	88089A	94136.20592678	.000000106	00000-0	82016-4	0	6281
2	19531	99.1704	124.3366	0010859	221.3105	138.7246	14.12985134290700	
MET-3/3								
1	20305U	89086A	94136.86006307	.000000044	00000-0	10000-3	0	458
2	20305	82.5500	291.6361	0006810	17.9875	342.1475	13.04407836218814	
FY-1/2								
1	20788U	90081A	94136.55798805	.000000424	00000-0	30916-3	0	9658
2	20788	98.8364	157.6984	0016484	95.2584	265.0463	14.01334974189270	
MET-2/20								
1	20826U	90086A	94132.58504276	.000000049	00000-0	31273-4	0	7954
2	20826	82.5258	174.3059	0014158	141.2539	218.9638	13.83580685182839	
MET-3/4								
1	21232U	91030A	94133.58950241	.000000050	00000-0	10000-3	0	6937
2	21232	82.5414	194.0495	0011485	273.4571	86.5244	13.16462067146800	
NOAA-12								
1	21263U	91032A	94136.46935316	.000000163	00000-0	92707-4	0	348
2	21263	98.6184	164.9422	0012780	334.1017	25.9523	14.22404550156024	
MET-3/5								
1	21655U	91056A	94134.01812282	.000000051	00000-0	10000-3	0	7027
2	21655	82.5508	140.8780	0011738	291.9740	68.0115	13.16829949131962	
MET-2/21								
1	22782U	93055A	94132.77291839	.000000056	00000-0	37429-4	0	2957
2	22782	82.5480	234.4911	0022126	329.5225	30.4648	13.83005585	35196
POSAT								
1	22829U	93061G	94133.19963416	.000000044	00000-0	35350-4	0	2778
2	22829	98.6517	209.4085	0009569	304.5811	55.4472	14.28023395	32706
MIR								
1	16609U	86017A	94139.87954077	.00027705	00000-0	39399-3	0	6137
2	16609	51.6468	327.9164	0001412	325.9678	34.1223	15.56155327471630	
HUBBLE								
1	20580U	90 37 B	94137.15152928	.000000478	00000-0	40129-4	0	3545
2	20580	28.4681	75.3297	0006448	124.3383	235.7814	14.90600387	24751
GRO								
1	21225U	91027B	94132.78355012	.000002428	00000-0	51424-4	0	910
2	21225	28.4611	117.8794	0003807	168.2185	191.8514	15.40771764	51470
UARS								
1	21701U	91063B	94132.90841328	.000002827	00000-0	26761-3	0	5174
2	21701	56.9866	300.4430	0005491	94.2247	265.9415	14.96527573145656	
/EX								

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Date: Thu, 19 May 1994 19:08:38 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!newshub.sdsu.edu!nic-nac.CSU.net!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!  
europa.eng.gtefsd.com!emory!kd4nc!n4tii@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Repost of IC-3220a problem  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hi gang....I got ZERO response last time I requested help so I am doing it again...

I have a friend who has an Icom IC-3220a dual band mobile. The rig has a problem in its 2 meter transmit side....some times it puts out full power and the s/rf meter swings to verify this....however, other times, the mic is keyed and the s/rf meter does not indicate forward power, yet the tx light is on. The rig puts out maybe a farthing of a watt....

On the 440 side, the radio operates correctly, and the 2 meter receive side is fine...

William, N4SZP, the owner of the rig reports the problem started shortly after a long hot day in Auburn, Al when the temperature in the truck got so hot, it blew out a window...

Question: could the heat built up inside the car destroy a componet on the radio?

Question 2: Is just the CPU screwing up, as the problem is intermittant... yet more times broke than correct...

Question 3: If it is the CPU, what is the procedure for resetting the CPU?

Thanks in advance for all your help!

(Gary Coffman, any ideas? You seem to be omniscient (grin)).

John

--

John Reed - Gainesville, GA | Internet: n4tii%kd4nc.uucp@gatech.edu  
N4TII - AFA2FH - Redstar 204 | Packet : n4tii@n4hdw.ga.usa.noam  
"That which can make you can also break you." - Mr. Rhythm's Good Advice

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Date: 20 May 94 20:40:00 GMT

From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: SOURCE for 8122 power amplifier tubes?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Anyone know a source and cost for 8122 power amp tubes?  
TNX  
Gary AA4UR  
patterso@anser.org

-----  
Date: 20 May 94 16:22:21 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: Why is Northern Ontario Canada left out of the ARRL repeater directory.  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Greetings,

I just wanted to know why is it that Northern Ontario Canada has left out of the ARRL and other repeater directories? Amature radio is alive and well in Northern Ontario and provides important emergency communications for the north. Has any other locality been left out of the repeater directory? Who actually makes the repeater directories, are they on internet? How can I get Northern Ontario repeaters listed again?

73's de Guy VE3 XGQ  
Co-sysop of the Sudbury Amature Radio BBS 1:224/50 (705) 522-8381

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Date: 20 May 94 16:54:36 GMT  
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!  
fc.hp.com!news.lvld.hp.com!scott@ucbvax.berkeley.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1994May17.122113.1@dcd00.fnl.gov>, <2rb0eq\$srh@cville-  
srv.wam.umd.edu>, <1994May18.061220.16459@ke4zv.atl.ga.us>  
Subject : Re: Need Advice

Gary Coffman (gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us) wrote:

:What's the point of "working around the world" if you don't have anything  
:interesting to \*say\* to the other operator? Just exchanging meaningless  
:signal reports isn't interesting. It has been done to death already by  
:others. On VHF/UHF you're much more likely to establish long term friendships  
:with other operators, and to engage them in interesting conversations on  
:a near daily basis. That's rather rare on HF, except on 75 meters, and  
:that's such a zoo of noise and interference that the contacts are rarely

:pleasant.

Well there's one man's view, and if you take Gary's comments at face value, you'd believe that HF is a wasteland of "59... also 59, QRZ?". A quick tune around any of the bands will tell you otherwise. What you'll really find, with the exception of major contest weekends, is pockets of DX'ers exchanging signal reports and moving on, completely surrounded by lots of folks chewing the rag. Yes, even on bands like 20 meters, and especially in places like 12 and 17. Some of the conversations are dull, boring and without much content, some are fascinating. Just about like all of the other amateur bands. I meet pretty much the same group of folks daily on V/UHF and have made some new local friends. I meet lots of different folks on HF, and have made a few long distance radio friendships as a result as well.

Listen up on HF. Don't just focus on the activities that annoy you. I find just as many or more interesting conversations on HF as V/UHF. But HF offers a taste of the exotic, and opportunities to easily talk to someone outside of your local repeater group. Personally, I really enjoy both activities, and wouldn't sell either short.

See my comments on 80 meters in another posting. The noise and interference are bad in the thunderstorm months, but winter is a whole 'nother ballgame. The low bands can be fun too.

Scott Turner KG0MR [scott@hpsila.LVLD.HP.COM](mailto:scott@hpsila.LVLD.HP.COM)

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End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #549

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